Index to Minutes of Commission of Fine Arts Meeting on 23 May 1957.

	Page
I. Commission of Fine Arts - Administration	
1. Minutes of previous meetings	1
2. Date of next meeting	1
3. Appointment of Mr. Henry H. Saylor as member of Old Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants	1
4. Confirmation of appointments to Shipstead-Luce Panel of Architectural Consultants	1
5. Need for period of advance study of building plans by members	1
II. Submissions	
1. Commissioners of District of Columbia	
a. Department of Licenses and Inspection	
1. Building applications under the jurisdiction of the Shipstead-Luce Act	2
2. Building applications under Old Georgetown Act	2
b. Highway Department	
1. Policy Statement with reference to the Inner Loop, by Gen. T.A.Lane	2
2. Anacostia Freeway Bridge at Portland St.	3
3. Anacostia Overpass at Penn. Ave.	3
4. Railroad bridge and viaduct at 2nd St. and South Capital Street	3
2. New Chancery Building for British Embassy	3
3. National Park Service	
a. The Netherlands Carillon	4
4. American Battle Monuments Commission	
a. West Coast Memorial	4
b. Memorial to General Pershing	4
5. Regents of the Smithsonian Institution	
a. Freer Gallery of Art: Purchases	4
6. Public Buildings Service, GSA	
a. Federal Office Building #6	4
b. Federal Office Building #10	5
III. Informal Submissions - None	5

IV. Congress-Legislation
1. Reports requested on
S.930/85th C- to establish a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts 5

S.1716/85th C-to establish a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts 5

V. Status reports and discussion topics
1. Constitution Avenue Bridge/tunnel 5
2. National Cultural Center Auditorium 5
3. American Institute of Architects Centennial Convention 5

Memorandum Minutes of the Commission of Fine Arts Meeting
Held in Washington, D. C. 23 May 1957
9:30 a.m.

The Commission met, pursuant to call, at 9:30 o'clock with the following members present:

David E. Finley, Chairman
Felix de Weldon
Mrs. Emily Muir
Elbert Peets
William G. Perry

Linton R. Wilson, Secretary
Susan E. Bennett, Admn. Asst.
Gilbert Halasz, Stenotypist

I. Administration

1. Minutes

The Chairman reported that the minutes of previous meetings will be circulated as soon as they are ready.

2. Date of next meeting

27 June 1957

3. Appointment of Mr. Henry H. Saylor as a member of the Old Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants

The Secretary reported that Mr. Henry H. Saylor had accepted the appointment as a member of the Old Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants replacing Mr. Louis A. Simon whose term of office has expired.

4. Confirmation of appointments to Shipstead-Luce Panel

The Secretary reported that Mr. Waldron Faulkner, Mr. Louis A. Simon, and Mr. Earl Gauger had accepted appointment to the Shipstead-Luce Panel of architects and their appointments were confirmed by the members of the Commission.

5. Need for period of advance study of building plans by members

The members expressed great concern over the fact that there was so little opportunity to consider a proposed design for a building or monument except in the presence of the architects making the design and the members of the commission or organization sponsoring the project. It was believed that if the design could be submitted in advance so that the members might study and discuss it freely among themselves, they would then be in a position to give more competent criticism. The basic problem was discussed at length but no conclusion being reached, the matter was held over for future consideration.

II. Submissions

1. Commissioners of the District of Columbia

a. Department of Licenses and Inspection

1. Six building applications, under the Shipstead-Luce Act, were held for study by the Panel of Architects. Exhibit A.

2. The actions of the Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants on the applications listed on Appendix 2 were confirmed. Exhibit B.

Mr. Walter Macomber and Mr. Henry Saylor, members of the Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants, appeared before the Commission to discuss the design of a proposed Boys Dormitory at Georgetown University. Mr. Macomber presented drawings and explained that the association providing the money to build the dormitory had specified that the design of the building must be kept simple. The question of material was discussed fully and all the members agreed that the most suitable material would be red brick so that the new building would harmonize with adjacent existing buildings.

b. Highway Department

1. Policy Statement re Design of the Inner Loop by Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Lane, Engineer Commissioner for the District of Columbia

The members requested the Secretary to make the following statement of the Engineer Commissioner a part of the record of the Commission:

" August 21, 1956

Memorandum to the Director, Department of Highways
Subject: Design of the Inner Loop

"Planning of the inner loop introduced new and serious problems of highway design for your Department. This project, in addition to the planned beneficial effect on highway traffic, will have a major impact upon the entire development of downtown Washington. It is important that the design be right.

"In bringing these highway structures into the heart of Washington we have a responsibility to achieve maximum harmony with surrounding property and land uses and to make wise provision for the long-range requirements of the City. The highway program must recognize its obligation to avoid damage to other community programs which will be affected by the highway construction.

"The alignment and grade of the design must take into consideration the effect which the required structures will have on surrounding property. Where the highway is elevated and economic community utilization of the space below it is practicable, the design should facilitate such use. The design should

should be clean in avoiding the creation of dead space which will create future problems of police and sanitation. Structural spans over streets and other ways must be ample to permit future growth, so that you will not be creating the kind of obstacle which you have encountered in some of our railroad underpasses which were built years ago. Features of design which will permit a better public use of available space or avoid the creation of potential community eyesores are in the public interest and should be included in basic highway design.

"It is not practicable to anticipate at this time all of the design problems which you will encounter. It is important that these problems as they arise be approached with a full recognition of the community interest.

/s/ T.A.Lane
Brigadier General, U.S.Army
Engineer Commissioner"

2. Anacostia Freeway Bridge at Portland Street

Mr. Tormey presented and explained the drawings for the Anacostia Freeway Bridge at Portland Street. After a discussion of the design and materials, the members voted to approve the design in general.

3. Anacostia Overpass at Pennsylvania Avenue

The architect, Mr. Tormey, presented a resubmission of the design for the bridge over Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. explaining that the width of the sidewalk under the bridge had been increased from six to ten feet in accordance with the suggestions made at an earlier meeting of the Commission. He also stated that although this increase in the width of the sidewalk would add to the cost of the bridge, it was planned to follow this procedure in all future bridges to be built along the Anacostia Freeway. The members approved the design as resubmitted.

4. Railroad Bridge and viaduct at 2nd and S. Capitol Streets

The architect, Mr. John Harbeson presented and explained maps and drawings of the railroad bridge and viaduct at 2nd and South Capital Streets. After a long discussion of the details, the members expressed the view that the architects and engineers had done an excellent job. It was unanimously voted to approve the project. Exhibit C.

2. New Chancery Building for British Embassy.

Sir Edward Muir, the Chief of the Ministry of Works, outlined the problems which the British Embassy is facing in providing office space for at least 600 workers and parking space for 214 cars. He then called on Mr. Bedford, the architect, to explain the design and the model of the new proposed office building which is to be built north of the Embassy on Massachusetts Avenue. There was a full discussion of the various phases of the problem but no conclusions were reached. After discussing the matter privately, the members asked Mr. Perry and Mr. Peets to convey certain recommendations for changes to the facade to the architect, Mr. Bedford. Exhibit D.

3. National Park Service

a. The Netherlands Carillon

The Chairman of the sponsoring committee, Mr. Van Hengel, presented photographs and a scale model of the tower for the carillon which is being given to the people of the United States from the people of the Netherlands. He explained that the architect had reduced the height of the tower to 120 feet, and had endeavored to meet other suggestions made by the Commission at an earlier meeting. All the members were favorably impressed with the revised design which they were glad to approve. They also asked the Ambassador, Mr. van Roijen, to express their appreciation to the architect for his cooperation and understanding. Exhibit E.

4. American Battle Monuments Commission

a. West Coast Memorial

The architectural advisor, Mr. John Harbeson, placed before the Commission two models of the West Coast Memorial. He explained the details of the design of the memorial and the plans for landscaping the area immediately surrounding it. The memorial is to be in light granite with the sculpture either in bronze or a darker granite so that it will not be lost in the background of the memorial. A sculptor has not yet been selected. After a discussion of materials, etc., the Commission advised Mr. Harbeson that they were pleased with the progress made but stated they would like to see the model again when the sculpture is in place. Exhibit F.

b. Memorial to General Pershing

The Chairman asked Mr. Harbeson what progress was being made on the memorial to General Pershing and Mr. Harbeson said that the architects had been selected and had agreed to serve. No sculptor has yet been selected.

5. Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

a. Freer Gallery of Art: Purchases for Collection

In accordance with the usual custom, the Commission visited the Freer Gallery of Art, where the Director, Mr. Wenley, submitted a number of works of art proposed for purchase. The Commission was pleased to inspect the objects and approved them for purchase. Exhibit G.

6. Public Buildings Service, General Services Admn.

a. Federal Office Building #6

The architect, Mr. Stenhouse, presented the model of Federal Office Building #6 and explained the revisions which had been made in order to bring the building into scale with the site available. He also explained the relationship of this building to the surrounding buildings. After considerable discussion, the members voted to express appreciation of the efforts

made by the architects to bring the building into scale and to urge them to use every effort to make the setting as attractive as possible under budgetary limitations. Exhibit H.

b. Federal Office Building #10

The architect, Mr. Carroll, presented and explained in detail the drawings and model for Federal Office Building #10. After a general discussion of all phases of the problem including site, size of building, number of people to be housed, parking facilities, etc., the members expressed satisfaction with the progress being made and stated they felt the Public Buildings Service and the architects were working in the right direction. Mr. Hunter stated that he would like to present more details of this building at the next meeting of the Commission in June. (See Exhibit H).

III. Informal Submissions - None.

IV. Congress - Legislation

a/ S.930/85th Congress - Federal Advisory Commn. on Arts

b. S.1716/85th Congress- Fed. Adv. Council on the Arts

The Secretary explained that S. 930 and S. 1716 were identical in purpose except in the number of members; S.930 calling for 24 members and S. 1716 calling for 21 members. The Chairman read a draft of a letter to Senator Lister Hill, Chairman of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, stating that the Commission of Fine Arts preferred S. 1716 by Senator Alexander Smith to S.930 by Senator Humphrey. After a full discussion of the purposes and provisions of the two bills, the members approved the letter to Senator Hill. Exhibit I.

V. Status Reports and Discussion Topics

a. Constitution Avenue Bridge/Tunnel

The Chairman reported that the prospects for a tunnel under the Potomac River at Constitution Avenue instead of a bridge seemed quite favorable, although it would probably be a six rather than a four lane tunnel.

b. National Cultural Center Auditorium

The Chairman reported that the legislation for the National Cultural Center had been reported to the Joint Committee for the House and Senate for conference, which means that usually approval is fairly certain.

c. American Institute of Architects

The Chairman called attention to the Centennial Convention of the American Institute of Architects which had been held in Washington during the week of May 13 to 17, and asked if any members had attended. Mr. Orr attended most of the meetings but as he was not present at this meeting, no report was made.

The Secretary then announced that the American Institute of Architects had elected the Chairman to honorary membership in the Institute.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linton R. Wilson
Secretary

APPENDIX 3

15. SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT SUBMISSIONS - Formal:

1973 1337 E St., NW (1 single-faced, 24 sq-ft constr. sign) for Auto Centers, Inc.

1980 119 Indep. Ave., SE (1 single-faced, 32-3/4 sq-ft sign) for Lincoln 5 & 10.

1981 400 New Jersey Ave., NW (1 single-faced, 3 sq-ft sign) for Acacia Mutual Life Ins. Co.

1982 1313 E St., NW (1 24 sq-ft, single-faced neon sign, gold) for Cock'N Bull Restaurant.

1983 615 Pa. Ave., NW (2 single-faced, non-illum. signs, 1.56 sq-ft each; 1 single-faced, 21 sq-ft neon sign) for Inter. Business Machines Corp.

1984 8132 West Beach Dr., NW (2-story addn. in rear; enlarge opening in masonry wall, remove window, new opening in frame wall.

Exhibit A

APPENDIX 1

4 (a). REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 18 APRIL 1957 MEETING:

1976 2901 Normanstone Dr., NW (new dwelling). Returned to D. C. Govt. for determination as to jurisdiction of the CFA. (CFA was informed by letter dtd 17 May 1957 from Mr. Julian P. Green, Chief, Permit Branch that "It has been determined that these cases do not come within the jurisdiction of the Commission of Fine Arts."

1977 2907 Normanstone Dr., NW (New dwelling). Same as 1976.

1978 2913 Normanstone Dr., NW (New dwelling). Same as 1976.

1979 2606 Normanstone Lane, NW (New dwelling). Same as 1976.

Exhibit B

APPENDIX 2

5. REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 18 APRIL 1957 MEETING:

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
1834	3348 Prosp. Ave., N.W. Capt. Allen I. Price	Replace 2 rotted-out door shutters & trim with 2 new shutters of same type on side entrance (in place)	Disap. Draw's. & photos. submitted with GC 1327 dtd. 1/20/58 do not indicate presence of shutters & trim now subj. of request to replace. Recom. wording of appl. be reviewed work compl. before subm. of appl. Further recom. that entablature above shutters be elim'd. & that framing of door embrasure be limited to shutters at sides; & that concrete lintel above windows be painted to match brickwork, 4/15/57
1840	1018-29th St., N.W. A. F. Pryce	6'-6" no. Michigan white cedar rustic stockade fence	App., 4/23/57
1841	1259 Wisc. Ave., N.W. Dr. John Greenwood	1 double-faced, 4 sq-ft sign	App., 4/23/57
1842 R 1565	1540-32nd St., N.W. L. L. Wheeler	Rev. to permit B-19466 to change lights in windows, change in size of windows 3' x 4'-2"	App. for window revisions, 4/23/57
1843	1515-32nd St., N.W. N. Mellen	7' brick fence	Disap. Recom. wood gate with brick posts, but no brick overhead, 4/23/57
1844	1201 Wisc. Ave., N.W. National Bank of Wash.	1 single-faced, 5 sq-ft sign	Disap.; exist. signs on bldg. already greatly exceed sign area considered desirable, 4/30/57
1845	3204 Q St., N.W. Chas. P. McCurdy	6'-6" Michigan white cedar rustic stockade fence	App., 4/30/57
1846 R 1839	1518-32nd St., N.W. N. Mellen	Rev. of appl. filed for relocation of fireplace	App., 4/30/57
1847	1215-33rd St., N.W. Clarence Beach	Remove exist. front wooden porch roof	App. provided face of bldg. be properly adjusted to the chance, 4/30/57
1848	1688-31st St., N.W. David Ginsburg	4 yellow canvas awnings	App., 4/30/57

APPENDIX 2 (Continued)

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
1849	1516-23th St., NW Col. Archibald King	New 2-car masonry garage replacing exist. 2-car metal garage	App; recom. red br. in place of cinder-block walls; or red br. facing if cinder-block is used, 5/7/57
1850	3230 Reser. Rd., NW L. D. C. Smith	5'-6" chestnut sapling fence	App., 5/7/57
1851 & 1843	1518-32nd St., NW M. Mellen	7' br. fence	App. provided top of gate be flat instead of curved, 5/7/57
1852	1046-31st St., NW Jacob E. Cichner (State Loan Print Shop)	Install cooling tower supports & duct system	Disap. location of cooling tower; suggest it be moved to suitable location directly no. on roof where it will be less visible, 5/7/57
1853	3304-06-08 N St., NW Friendship Corp.	Erect private garage--brick & cinder-block	App. revised draw's. dtd. 5/13/57, 5/15/57
1854	3200 M St., NW Rive Gauche Rest.	Erect cooling tower on roof (in place)	Disap. present location. work completed before subm. Recom. screening if it is not feasible to move apparatus to a location less visible from a public highway, 5/20/57
1855 & 1837	1578-33rd St., NW Natalie B. Montgomery	Rev. of plns. bldg. permit B-20224: use br. cornice on 1-story part of bldg. to match brick cornice on 2-story part of bldg.	App., 5/7/57
1856 & 1555	1248-30th St., NW Stephen J. Sarabas	Rev. plans app. under B-16549 to show cooling tower of air-conditioning equipment. Original approval by OC 1555	Disap. present location. work completed before submission. Recom. screening if it is not feasible to move apparatus to a location less visible from a public highway, 5/20/57
1857 & 1627	1525-35th St., NW George Breed	Rev. permit B-1671 & B-5321 to replace exist. twin window with fixed mullion	App. provided window mullion be cut back so to extend not more than 2 inches beyond face of sash, 5/13/57
1858	3421 Dent Pl., NW Chisholm Bench	Rev. to Permit B-21977, to change from open pattern br. fence wall to solid br. fence wall; also make changes in interior	App., 5/13/57

APPENDIX 2 (Continued)

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
1859	2508-10-12-14-16 R St., NW E. A. Ginnetti	5' white Michigan cedar split rail fence	App., 5/13/57
1860	3252 Prospect Ave., NW Mrs. Monique Chesneau	Replace window sash to put in 6-light windows & enlarge lower window by doing away with partitions	Ret'd. for specifications of design of enlarged window of 1st fl., 5/20/57
1861	1564-33rd St., NW Frederick Allman	Install W. I. rail. on front stoop, install light fixtures at entr. door, & install exhaust fan	App'd. Note: Work completed before submission of application to CFA, 5/20/57
1862	1566-33rd St., NW Frederick Allman	Install W. I. rail. on front stoop, install light fixtures at entr. door, & install exhaust fan	App'd. Note: Work completed before subm. ofapplication to CFA, 5/20/57
1863	1046-31st St., NW Jacob H. Gichner (State Loan Print Shop)	Install 24 x 48 air inlet grill in wall facing alley	App'd. for air intake louver only, 5/20/57
1864	1687-32nd St., NW Mr & Mrs John W. Dregge	Reset exist. iron fence on new br. wall, repair exist. foundation--extend br. steps to house wall on concrete foundation--replace exist. rail with new w. i. rail on steps	App., 5/20/57

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

11 July 1957

Dear General Lane:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on 23 May 1957, Mr. John Harbeson, architect, presented the drawings and perspective sketch for that part of the Inner Belt Freeway located at Second Street, Southwest and South Capitol Street.

The members of the Commission felt that Mr. Harbeson had handled his part of the complex problem, involving both a railroad bridge and a viaduct, in a very successful manner, and approved the architectural features of the plans as presented. They have asked me again, however, to state how greatly they deplore seeing plans of this magnitude progress to this point of realization without an attempt being made to solve the basic problem created by the presence of the railroad above ground in this part of the city.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Brigadier General Thomas A. Lane
District of Columbia Engineer Commissioner
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

Exhibit C

Dear General Lane:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on May 19th Mr. John Harbeson, architect, presented the drawings and perspective sketch for that part of the Inner Belt Freeway located on Second Street, Southwest and South Capitol Street.

The members of the Commission felt that Mr. Harbeson had handled his part of the complex problem, involving both a railroad bridge and a viaduct, in a very successful manner, and approved the architectural features of the plans as presented. They have asked me again, however, to state how greatly they deplore losing plans of this magnitude progress to this point of realization without an attempt being made to solve the basic problem created by the presence of the railroad above ground in this part of the city.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Brigadier General Thomas A. Lane
District of Columbia Engineer Commissioner
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

Exhibit C

Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

24 May 1957

My dear Sir Edward:

The Commission of Fine Arts was very glad to meet with you and Mr. Eric Bedford yesterday and appreciated your courtesy in bringing to us the model and drawings of the proposed new Chancery to be erected on the site adjoining the British Embassy residence.

As I said yesterday, the Commission of Fine Arts has no jurisdiction over the design of embassy buildings, but we were pleased that you have asked us for our advice and hope that the suggestions made by Mr. Perry and Mr. Peets in talking with Mr. Bedford yesterday afternoon, especially with reference to the Southeast Corner of the building, may prove useful in the restudy of the design which we understand, Mr. Bedford wishes to make. If there is anything further we can do while you are in Washington, or after your return to England, please do not hesitate to call on us. The Commission will meet again on June 27th, which will probably be the last meeting until September.

I understand that General Lane is calling a meeting of the Zoning Commission on Tuesday morning when a decision will be reached as to questions involving zoning.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Sir Edward Muir
c/o The British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit D

Brigadier General Thomas A. Lane
District of Columbia Engineer Commissioner
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

Exhibit C

Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

24 May 1957

My dear Sir Edward:

The Commission of Fine Arts was very glad to meet with you and Mr. Eric Bedford yesterday and appreciated your courtesy in bringing to us the model and drawings of the proposed new Chancery to be erected on the site adjoining the British Embassy residence.

As I said yesterday, the Commission of Fine Arts has no jurisdiction over the design of embassy buildings, but we were pleased that you have asked us for our advice and hope that the suggestions made by Mr. Perry and Mr. Peets in talking with Mr. Bedford yesterday afternoon, especially with reference to the Southeast Corner of the building, may prove useful in the restudy of the design which we understand, Mr. Bedford wishes to make. If there is anything further we can do while you are in Washington, or after your return to England, please do not hesitate to call on us. The Commission will meet again on June 27th, which will probably be the last meeting until September.

I understand that General Lane is calling a meeting of the Zoning Commission on Tuesday morning when a decision will be reached as to questions involving zoning.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Sir Edward Muir
c/o The British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit D

Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

24 May 1957

My dear Sir Edward:

The Commission of Fine Arts was very glad to meet with you and Mr. Mario Bedford yesterday and appreciated your courtesy in bringing to us the model and drawings of the proposed new Chancery to be erected on the site adjoining the British Embassy residence.

As I said yesterday, the Commission of Fine Arts has no jurisdiction over the design of embassy buildings, but we were pleased that you have asked us for our advice and some of the suggestions made by Mr. Perry and Mr. Testa in talking with Mr. Bedford yesterday afternoon, especially with reference to the Southwest Corner of the building, may prove useful in the restudy of the design which we understand Mr. Bedford plans to make. If there is anything further we can do while you are in Washington or after your return to England, please do not hesitate to call on us. The Commission will meet again on June 27th, when it probably be the last meeting until September.

I understand that General Lane is calling a meeting of the Zoning Commission on Tuesday morning when a decision will be reached as to questions involving zoning.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Sir Edward Muir
c/o The British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit D

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

5 June 1957

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The members of the Commission were very happy to have you and Mr. Van Hengel meet with them on 23 May, and to consider the revised design of the carillon tower, the gift of the people of the Netherlands to the people of the United States.

The members were all delighted with the new design as shown in the scale model and photographs, and were impressed by the imagination shown by the architect in developing the suggestions which were made at our previous meeting on 24 January 1957. We are accordingly glad to give our approval to the design of the structure. We also hope that you will express to the architect and the others associated with the project, our recognition of their hearty cooperation. Those who have seen the design consider it a truly outstanding work, which, I am sure, will bring great pleasure to many people, when it is erected.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

H. E.
The Netherlands Ambassador
The Netherlands Embassy
1470 Euclid Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit E

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

3 June 1957

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The members of the Commission were very happy to have you and Mr. Van Hengel meet with them on 23 May, and to consider the revised design of the carillon tower, the gift of the people of the Netherlands to the people of the United States.

The members were all delighted with the new design as shown in the scale model and photographs, and were impressed by the imagination shown by the architect in developing the suggestions which were made at our previous meeting on 31 January 1957. We are accordingly glad to give our approval to the design of the structure. We also hope that you will express to the architect and the others associated with the project, our recognition of their hearty cooperation. Those who have seen the design consider it a truly outstanding work, which, I am sure, will bring great pleasure to many people, when it is erected.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

H. E.
The Netherlands Ambassador
The Netherlands Embassy
4200 Linnean Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit E

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

5 June 1957

Dear General North:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts were glad to see and study the scale models, based on the revised plans, for the West Coast Memorial, as resubmitted by Mr. John Harbeson at a meeting of the Commission on 23 May 1957.

The general idea for the masonry portion of the memorial was approved, but the models made it clear that the success of this design depends equally on the form and relationship of the sculptured motifs. It is hoped therefore that a sculptor will soon be selected so that the development of the sculptor's ideas may be included as an integral part of the monument. Mr. Harbeson stated that he believed this could be done without delay, and the model revised to reflect such development.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday, June 27th, but there will be no meetings during July and August. The first meeting in the autumn will be held about themiddle of September. If you wish to have the model presented again at the June or September meetings and will so indicate, I shall be happy to reserve a time for you.

Colonel Walker has advised me that he will furnish photographs of the models of the West Coast Memorial for our records, when the pictures have been made.

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

Brigadier General Thomas North
Secretary
American Battle Monuments Commission
2080 Main Navy Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Exhibit F

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

June 1957

Dear General North:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts were glad to see and study the scale models, based on the revised plans, for the West Coast Memorial, as resubmitted by Mr. John Harbeson at a meeting of the Commission on 23 May 1957.

The general idea for the masonry portion of the memorial was approved, but the models made it clear that the success of this design depends equally on the form and relationship of the sculptured motifs. It is hoped therefore that a sculptor will soon be selected so that the development of the sculptor's ideas may be included as an integral part of the monument. Mr. Harbeson stated that he believed this could be done without delay, and the model revised to reflect such development.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday, June 27th, but there will be no meetings during July and August. The first meeting in the autumn will be held about the middle of September. If you wish to have the model presented again at the June or September meetings and will so indicate, I shall be happy to reserve a time for you.

Colonel Walker has advised me that he will furnish photographs of the models of the West Coast Memorial for our records, when the pictures have been made.

Sincerely yours,

L. H. Nelson
Secretary

Brigadier General Thomas North
Secretary
American Battle Monuments Commission
2080 Main Navy Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Exhibit F

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, or Mrs. Eugene Meyer, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Bronze dragon; Chinese, Han dynasty, possibly from Chang Sha;
1 Bronze vessel, kuei; Chinese, Shang dynasty; inscription in center of bowl;
1 Glass mosque lamp; Syrian, late 14th century;
1 Gold bracelet; Persian (gurgan); hinged; 2 turquoise inlays, 2 missing;
1 Ivory carving of Buddha; Chinese, dated in correspondence with A. D. 1025;
1 Metal (silver) bowl; said to be Sassanian; gilt, with eagle design;
1 Painting, landscape; Chinese, dated 1712; by Wang Hui (1632-1717);
1 Painting, landscape, on silk; Chinese, late Ming, 17th Century; by Sheng Nao-yeh;
1 Painting, landscape, on paper; Chinese, early Ch'ing, 17th Century; by Hsiao Yun-tsung;
1 Painting, grape branches; Chinese; attributed to Nikkan (Jih Kuan);
1 Pair screens, mountainous landscapes; Japanese; by Sesshu (1420-1506);
1 Pottery bowl, white, with metal edge; Chinese, Sung dynasty, Ting Yao; fish and flower design;
1 Pottery bowl, white, with metal edge; Chinese, Sung dynasty, Ting Yao; fish and flower design;
1 Pottery plate; Japanese, Kakiemon, 18th century; design of two fish;
1 Stone (jade-like; said to be "t'ien-huang") carving; Chinese; signed Chou Pin;

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

_____

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

_____

For the Commission of Fine Arts

_____

Exhibit G

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, or Mrs. Eugene Meyer, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Bronze dragon; Chinese, Han dynasty, possibly from Inner Asia;
1 Bronze vessel, hsi; Chinese, Shang dynasty, inscription in center of bowl;
1 Glass mosque lamp; Syrian, late 13th century;
1 Gold bracelet; Persian (Luristan); hinged; 2 turquoise studs; 4 missing;
1 Ivory carving of Buddha; Chinese, dated in correspondence with A. D. 1023;
1 Metal (silver) bowl; said to be Sassanian; gilt, with eagle design;
1 Painting, landscape; Chinese, dated 1712; by Wang Hui (1632-1717);
1 Painting, landscape, on silk; Chinese, late Ming, 17th Century; by Shang Mao-yeh;
1 Painting, landscape, on paper; Chinese, early Ch'ing, 17th Century; by Hsiao Yun-tsung;
1 Painting, rose branches; Chinese; attributed to Kinkan (Jin Nung);
1 Pair screens, mountainous landscapes; Japanese; by Sesshu (1420-1506);
1 Pottery bowl, white, with metal edge; Chinese, Sung dynasty, Ting Yao; fish and flower design;
1 Pottery bowl, white, with metal edge; Chinese, Sung dynasty, Ting Yao; fish and flower design;
1 Pottery plate; Japanese, Oaxiemon, 18th century; design of two fish;
1 Stone (jade-like; said to be "Ch'ien-lung") carving; Chinese; engraved Gnor Fin;

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

For the Commission of Fine Arts

Exhibit C

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

24 May 1957

My dear Mr. Commissioner: (Federal Office Buildings #6 and #10)

The Commission of Fine Arts was very glad to meet yesterday with Mr. Hunter and your group of architects to discuss the plans for the Federal Office Buildings 6 and 10. It seemed to the Commission that the work had been well organized by your office and we were glad to commend the plans which have been made for developing this area. The use of a model in studying the design was most helpful, and we hope that you can soon provide one that will be large enough to show the relationship of all the proposed work in this part of the Southwest area.

We feel that the design of the building to be erected on the axis of the Archives Building is of paramount importance, as it will be seen across the Mall and will dominate the group of buildings on the south side of theMall. We realize that a final design cannot bemade for this building until it is known what agency will occupy it. We believe that, in view of its position, this building should be monumental in character and not convey the impression of merely another office building. We approved in principle the designs which were submitted to us for these two buildings, but hope you will continue to consult with us further as the designs are developed at larger scale. We hope also that, when a decision has been reached as to the agency that will occupy the building, you will confer with us as to the suitability of design and will give us an opportunity to discuss this matter with the architects and Mr. Hunter in the early stages of the design.

We feel that the landscaping of this area is of great importance and urge that some part of the funds be reserved for this purpose and for decoration of the buildings with suitable sculpture and painting.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Honorable F. Moran McConihe
Commissioner of Public Buildings
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

David E. Finley
Chairman

Exhibit H

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

24 May 1957

My dear Mr. Commissioner: (Federal Office Buildings 10 and 10A)

The Commission of Fine Arts was very glad to have Secretary Weeks, Mr. Hughes and your group of architects to discuss the plans for the Federal Office Buildings 7 and 10. It seemed to the Commission that the work had been well organized by your office and we were glad to conclude the plans which have been made were developing quite well. The use of a model in studying the design was very helpful, and we hope that you can soon provide one that will be large enough to show the relationship of all the proposed work in this part of the Southwest area.

We feel that the design of the building to be erected on the axis of the Archives Building is of paramount importance, as it will be seen across the Mall and will dominate the group of buildings on the south side of the Mall. We realize that a final design cannot be made for this building until it is known what agency will occupy it. We believe that, in view of its position, this building should be monumental in character and not convey the impression of merely another office building. We approved in principle the designs which were submitted to us for these two buildings, but hope you will continue to consult with us further as the designs are developed at larger scale. We hope also that, when a decision has been reached as to the agency that will occupy this building you will confer with us as to the suitability of design and will give us an opportunity to discuss this matter with the architects and Mr. Morton in the early stages of the design.

We feel that the landscaping of this area is of great importance and urge that some part of the funds be reserved for this purpose and for decoration of the buildings with suitable sculpture and painting.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Honorable E. Morgan Hoover
Commissioner of Public Buildings
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

David E. Finley
Chairman

Exhibit C

Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

13 June 1957

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested in your letter of May 14,1957, I am glad to give you the views of the Commission of Fine Arts with reference to S. 930, a bill "To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts, and for other purposes;" and also with reference to S. 1716, a bill "To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts, and for other purposes."

At a meeting held on May 23,1957, the members of the Commission of Fine Arts discussed the respective provisions of the two bills. It was noted that the primary purpose of the proposed legislation was to establish advisory bodies within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to study and recommend methods to encourage creative activity in the performance and practice of the arts, and to arouse wider appreciation of the Arts.

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts have asked me to state that they believe that enactment of legislation of this type and establishment of the advisory council as proposed in this legislation can be of assistance to the work of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, especially as regards the activities of the Office of Education.

Of the two bills, the members preferred S. 1716 because it provides for the establishment by the Advisory Council of smaller working committees to study specific phases of the problem. It is our experience that consideration by large groups tends to slow down action and reduce the chances of reaching an effective solution.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised us that it has no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Lister Hill, Chairman
Labor and Public Welfare Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit I

Honorable Lister Hill, Chairman
Labor and Public Welfare Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested in your letter of May 14, 1957, I am glad to give you the views of the Commission of Fine Arts with respect to S. 1983, a bill "To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Commission on the Arts, and for other purposes," and also with reference to S. 1769, a bill "To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts and for other purposes."

At a meeting held on May 23, 1957, the members of the Commission of Fine Arts discussed the respective provisions of the two bills. It was noted that the primary purpose of the proposed legislation was to establish advisory bodies within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to study and recommend methods to encourage creative activity in the performing and practice of the arts, and to arouse wider appreciation of the Arts.

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts have never felt to place themselves on record as opposing legislation of this type. They believe that enactment of legislation of this type would be of assistance to the work of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, especially as regards the activities of the Office of Education.

Of the two bills, the members preferred S. 1769 because it provides for the establishment by the Advisory Council of regional workshops to study specific phases of the problem. It is our opinion that consideration by large groups tends to slow down action and reduce the chances of reaching an effective solution.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised us that it has no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman